

COPING WITH HOPE 2014 SYMPOSIUM

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The Los Angeles HIV Mental Health Task Force hosted its annual, "Coping with Hope 2014 – The HIV Care Continuum," on Thursday, May 22, 2014, at the California Endowment. Over 200 nurses and mental health practitioners attended the free symposium addressing the mental health needs of clients affected by the third decade of HIV/AIDS epidemic.



The goal of the symposium was to examine the critical roles of nurses and mental health providers in assisting clients with HIV care and services, address challenges faced in providing the appropriate HIV care and review the latest information on HIV/AIDS and substance abuse treatments available.



Topics and speakers for the day included “Substance Abuse Treatment & the HIV Care Continuum” by Sherry Larkins, Ph.D., Pacific Southwest ATTC; “Medical Update” by Mark Katz, M.D., Kaiser Permanente, “ACA, HIV & the Care Continuum” by Tom Donohoe, M.B.A., UCLA/Pacific AETC; and “HIV Cure Research” by Ron Mitsuyasu, M.D., UCLA CARE Clinic. The event also included two breakout sessions with six different focuses attendees could participate in.



Participants left having a better understanding of the roles, strategies and resources they can use in continued efforts of HIV care and treatment.